

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 671 – SB 925

March 6, 2017

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Authorizes certain persons serving on a county or city board of utilities to serve as an election day official. Requires the state Coordinator of Elections as well as the State Election Commission to certify each voting system for purchase and use in the state and requires certain considerations to be made prior to such certification.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004313):** Deletes and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes authorizes any employee of a public utility board to serve as an election day official and authorizes the State Coordinator of Elections and State Election Commission to conduct random inspections of certified voting systems used by county election commissions.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Expanding which persons are eligible to serve as an election day official will not result in any fiscal impact to state or local government.
- The state Coordinator of Elections and at least two members of the State Election Commission would be required to view the performance of voting systems utilized in other states when they are under consideration.
- According to the Department of State, State Election Commission members currently travel to view voting equipment prior to certification; therefore, no addition state expenditures will be required for certification of voting machines.
- The state Coordinator of Elections and the State Election Commission will be authorized to conduct random inspections of certified voting systems and operating source code or delegate such inspections to a testing lab which is approved by a majority of the members of the State Election Commission.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-11-202(a)(5), the state Coordinator of Elections is required to investigate or have investigated the administration of election laws, including reviewing the county election commissions in the administration of voting systems.

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- Authorizing the state Coordinator of Elections and State Election Commission to randomly select a voting system to inspect can be accomplished within existing resources of the Divisions of Elections and therefore will not result in any significant increase in state expenditures.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/jrh